



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE

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**MAN APPREHENDED ON INDICTMENTS
FOR IDENTITY THEFT CRIMES**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that a man identifying himself as “Jose Ramon Quinones” of 285 Concord Street, Manchester, NH, was arraigned in U. S. District Court in Concord on a four-count indictment for identity theft returned by a Federal Grand Jury. A trial date was set for March 2, 2004, in front of Judge Steven J. McAuliffe. The defendant was detained pending his trial.

The four federal felony charges stem from accusations that the defendant made an application in November of 2002 for a U.S. Passport using the name “Jose Ramon Quinones”, a birth certificate in that name, and a social security number corresponding to that name, all of which the government alleges belonged not to the man arrested, but to another man. The indictment was sealed until yesterday when the defendant was apprehended.

If convicted of these offenses the defendant faces a maximum prison term of ten years and possible fines of up to \$250,000.

The charges and apprehension of Quinones resulted from his activities being brought to the attention of the Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney’s Office which brings together both federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Social Security Administration, the U.S. State Department’s Diplomatic Security Service and the Manchester, N.H. Police Department ensued.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alfred Rubega.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all cases, each defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.